

Comment received via email from: Gary Landers
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I currently own and operate a rehabilitation center that receives injured raptors from Central and Eastern Oregon. As you well know, virtually all birds that come in contact with wind turbines are fatalities. Or, if they survive, the birds are non-releasable.

I am deeply disturbed that the USFWS is avoiding its responsibility to protect birds under the MBTA and BGEPA. The USFWS is supposed to be the agency protecting these species, not selling them out for political convenience.

The most disturbing aspect to these guidelines are that they are "voluntary." Regulations must be "MANDATORY" for them to be effective. Voluntary requests to hunters are not stopping the rampant use of lead ammunition which is well documented in killing bald and golden eagles. Voluntary guidelines for the wind power industry will not provide the necessary level of protection for birds and bats.

One MANDATORY SITING GUIDELINE should be the use of radar to detect the air movement of birds and bats. Each proposed site should have to record bird signatures across a predetermined distance using both horizonatal and verticle/elevation radar arrays for one year minimum to guide the siting of turbine clusters. Currently the wind industry is using short term human observation to record wildlife movements. This is highly inaccurate and lacks comprehensive detail.

We need to stop accepting the naive concept that wind energy (as it exists today) will create a significant amount of energy for America. Giving business a "voluntary" green light to build without MANDATORY SITING GUIDELINES is criminal. PLEASE ENACT MANDATORY STANDARDS. NOT VOLUNTARY STANDARDS.

Thank you

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